

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for transparently resolving a web site address for a public host in a public network when said public host is connected ~~[[with]]~~ to a virtual private network (VPN), said method comprising the steps of:

- a) connecting ~~[[a]]~~ said public host with a virtual private network (VPN), said public host having a software module included therein for routing ~~future~~ domain name requests to a domain name server (DNS) of said VPN while said connection is active, said software module operating transparent to said public host;
- b) said software module monitoring communication packets transmitted from said public host for the presence of domain name requests outbound from said public host;
- c) said software module transparently intercepting said requests;
- d) said software module modifying said requests by replacing an address of a DNS of an internet service provider (ISP) of said public host with the address of said DNS of said VPN and routing said requests to said DNS of said VPN;
- e) said DNS of said VPN resolving said requests routed thereto by said software module and returning an address location to said software module as a domain name response;
- f) said software module modifying said response by re-modifying said address of said ISP to counter-act the IP address modification performed in step d); and
- g) said software module providing said address location ~~for use by~~ to said public host~~[[.]]~~;
wherein said address location appears to said public host as being provided by said DNS of said ISP.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of connecting said host to said address location.

5 – 11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1, wherein ~~said software module modifies said requests in step d) [[by]]~~ further comprises said software module replacing an address of an internet service provider (ISP) with the address of said DNS of said VPN and modifying a check sum of said domain name requests; and ~~said software module modifies said responses in step f)~~ further comprises said software module [[by]] re-modifying said check sum and said address of said ISP to counter-act the original check sum and ISP address modifications modification performed in step d).

13. (previously presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein said modification of said check sum includes computing a new check sum by XORing said check sum with a hexadecimal value to obtain a one's complement, and replacing said check sum with said new check sum.

14. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said connection between said public host and said VPN is a VPN tunnel.

15. (previously presented) The method of Claim 14, wherein said VPN tunnel is a Secure Internet Protocol (IPSec) tunnel.

16. (previously presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein said public host is one of a personal digital assistant (PDA), a desktop personal computer, and a laptop personal computer; having data communication capabilities.

17. (currently amended) A system for transparently resolving a web site address for a public host in a public network when said public host is connected [[with]] to a virtual private (VPN), said system comprising:

a domain name server (DNS) of said VPN for resolving domain name requests from said public host and for returning an address location as a domain name response;

a software module [[of]] transparently included in said public host for monitoring

communication packets outbound of said public host for the presence of said domain name requests; [[and]] for transparently intercepting said requests; for modifying said requests by replacing an address of a DNS of an internet service provider (ISP) of said public host with an address of said DNS of said VPN and routing said requests to said DNS of said VPN; for receiving said response and modifying [[a]] said response from said DNS of said VPN by re-modifying said address of said ISP to counter-act the address modification performed on said request; and for forwarding providing said [[an]] address location to said public host; and a communication link between said software module and said DNS of said VPN for transmitting said request and said response;[[.]]

wherein said address location appears to said public host as being provided by said DNS of said ISP.

18. (previously presented) The system of Claim 17, wherein said software module is a driver.

19. (previously presented)The system of Claim 17, wherein said public host is one of a personal digital assistant (PDA), a desktop personal computer, and a laptop personal computer; having data communication capabilities compatible with said communication link.